

FWP R2 CAC Meeting

MEETING DATE: Thursday, May 3, 2012
LOCATION: FWP Region 2 Headquarters, Missoula
TIME: 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Members: Tim Aldrich, Jane Bennett, Louie Bouma, Connie Buresh, Todd Frank, Dudley Improta, Charlie Johnson, Denley Loge, Jack Reneau, Carey Schmidt, Denny Schutz, Stephanie Strickland

Staff: Vivaca Crowser, Jeff Darrah, Mack Long, Pat Saffel, Ginny Schmautz, Mike Thompson, and

Round-robin:

CAC members went around the table and shared what they had been hearing in their communities and circles. An overview of the topics brought to the table included:

- Concerned with past bad media surrounding trapping and the potential for more, especially with the possibility of a wolf trapping season on the horizon. Trappers need to take the lead on being the example of a responsible trapper and the CAC group brainstormed ways to make this happen.
- FWP R2 Facebook page looks good, but be strategic and exercise caution because of how quickly content is shared via social media.
- Idea of getting more educational brochures with information stressing the benefits of hunting—healthy food, supporting conservation, etc.
- Dudley reported that there was one fatality in Philipsburg related to avalanches this winter, and one avalanche at Marshall Lake where a son and father were successfully rescued.
- Hunting Regulations:
 - Regulations becoming more complicated—how can we overcome this to help hunters?
 - Wolf should be added to the sportsman license.
 - Hunters that Dudley has talked to disagree with the Native Montana License and allowing the youth to start hunting deer 2 days before the season.
 - FWP should make an effort to move all the application deadlines to the same day.
- Block management:
 - Fielded questions & provided an update that on the 1st of July contracts will be signed with ranchers and FWP and books will be out by August 15
 - CAC members continue to hear that the public would like to see Block Management information out sooner.

- FWP should continue to look at ways to have people that enjoy wildlife, but don't hunt, can contribute money to conservation

Fisheries Presentation- Pat Saffel

- Saffel gave a presentation on current fisheries issues & projects in the region.

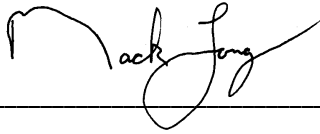
Current Wildlife Topics—Mike Thompson

- Passed out two handouts:
 - Bitterroot Elk Project Progress Report – Spring 2012
 - Public Notice on the Proposed DNRC/FWP Land Exchange

Next meeting

Tuesday, August 7th, 6 pm, at the FWP R2 Office

Minutes approved by:



Mack Long, FWP Regional Supervisor

5/20/12

Date